

Existing Conditions Report and County Profiles

What is it?

PURPOSE

- Provides a snapshot of the 13-county Houston-Galveston Region's context at the inception of the inception of the Houston Galveston Regional Plan for Sustainable Development – *Our Great Region 2040*.
- Acts as barometer of where our region is today through a high-level regional look at the topic areas of:
 - Education
 - Economy
 - Open spaces
 - Natural resources
 - Health
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Goods movement
 - Resiliency
- Identifies existing regional plans and a sampling of implementation initiatives
- Does NOT provide strategies or recommendations to address challenges or build
- County-level Profiles were created for each of the 13-counties in the region. The County Profiles contain information on population, households and housing, the economy, education and poverty, health, the environment, and transportation at a county-level.

How will it be used?

- Helps establish baseline sustainability information about the region that may be used to measure progress and change over time
- Along with the companion County-level profiles for each of the 13-counties in the region, the Existing Conditions Report will be used to help the region tell its story and identify challenges and opportunities

How does it relate to Our Great Region 2040?

- The Existing Conditions Report, by providing baseline information about the topics addressed in *Our Great Region 2040*, provides the foundation for measuring progress towards the goals of the plan over time
- Helps set the stage for identification of the plan's strategies by identifying challenges and opportunities as well as existing plans and initiatives that the plan's strategies will build upon

Existing Conditions Report and County Profiles

- Helps tell our region's story and sets the stage for the overall RPSD by providing high level overview of how our region is doing and compares to other peer regions in the areas of education attainment, the economy, environmental conservation, air and water quality, access to health care and rates of disease, housing affordability and quality, mobility and transportation options, and resiliency.
- County Profiles provide an in-depth examination of data at a sub-regional level, illuminating differences that exist within the 13 counties of Our Region.

How was the Existing Conditions Report developed?

- The Existing Conditions Report and County Profiles were compiled by H-GAC staff and reviewed by members of the Coordinating Committee. County Profiles were also distributed for review by local entities during the local leaders meetings held in the spring of 2013. Sources are listed in the endnotes section and rely on existing information and data sources.
- As data is continually changing, it is important to note the dates of the data sources. It is the intent of H-GAC that, pending funding availability, the Existing Conditions Report and County Profiles may be updated over time to reflect new data and information.